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Growing Concern Over Castro

The Latin American Times Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 28 — A new collective Inter American move to deal with a growing Castro-communist threat throughout the hemisphere is urgently needed, according to some U. S. officials and Latin American ambassadors here after Fidel Castro's three-hour diatribe on Monday during which he attacked U. S. policies and urged greater revolutionary tactics in the hemisphere.

It is an acknowledged fact, admitted by Castro himself and repeatedly confirmed by the Organization of American States (OAS) that Cuba's main export item is communist subversion. Because Castro has turned Cuba into a supply base of arms and money for terrorist organizations throughout Latin America, the OAS, on July 26, 1964, voted to impose diplomatic and economic sanctions on Cuba.

The OAS condemned the Castro regime for committing aggression against Venezuela in 1963 by smuggling arms to pro-communist guerrillas and terrorists. It also warned Cuba that new subversive acts anywhere in the Western Hemisphere would be met with individual or collective deterrents by the OAS member states, "which could go as far as resort to armed force."

Furthermore, the OAS ordered its 20 member states to suspend diplomatic and consular relations with Havana as well as trade and sea transportation.

Other Evidence Cited

Although the OAS acted on specific charges brought by the Venezuelan government, the assembly of Western Hemisphere foreign ministers has other evidence of Cuban-instigated subversion and aggression dating back to the first months of Castro's rule when a group of Cuban "liberators," led by a Cuban army major, invaded Panama with the expectation of triggering an uprising against its democratically elected government.

In the one-year period since Castro was condemned by the OAS foreign ministers conference for interfering in Venezuela's domestic affairs he has been able to spur subversion and guerrilla warfare in Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala, and even Peru where President Fernando Belaunde Terry recently charged that Cuba

and the Soviet Union are helping communist "gangsters" to bring unrest to his country.

According to the American Embassy in Santo Domingo, 29 of the 53 hardcore Dominican communists visited Cuba before the revolt. To show the links of Dominican communists with the Castro regime, U. S. officials in Santo Domingo cited some of their records. Juan Ducoudray Mansfield, for example, was described by U. S. officials as a link with Communist Cuba in supplying Dominican communists with weapons. Many other Dominican communists and members of the pro-Castro June 14 Movements were described by U. S. officials as communists who were trained in Cuba for paramilitary operations in the Dominican Republic.

Many Trained in Cuba

There is firm intelligence evidence that a growing number of Latin American revolutionists have been going through training schools in Cuba, receiving hardheaded indoctrination courses in fomenting and maintaining subversive campaigns designed ultimately to win power in their own countries.

Some of these young revolutionists are frequently sent from Cuba to "finishing training schools" in Czechoslovakia, Soviet Russia, and even China, where they are taught every communist technique — from how to repair and use captured U. S. weapons to Mao Tse-tung's theories on how anti-government guerrillas can win and hold the support of peasants.

According to a recent Central Intelligence Agency report to Congress, Castro had spent more than \$1 million fomenting a communist takeover in Venezuela. Other recipients of Castro subversion funds, according to the CIA report: Guatemala, \$250,000; El Salvador, \$50,000; Panama, \$30,000. Unspecified sums also reportedly have gone to Peru, Brazil, Bolivia and the Dominican Republic.

New Meeting Doubted

Although Castro has done what the OAS warned him against doing and many important Latin American countries, such as Peru and Colombia, have expressed concern over subversion, a new inter-American meeting to deal with the growing Castro-

communist threat throughout the hemisphere is unlikely at the moment. The unilateral U. S. military intervention in the Dominican Republic on April 28 has widely split the Latin American governments on the Dominican issue to the extent that the OAS has agreed to postpone the crucial inter-American conference set for Rio de Janeiro on Aug. 4.

If the Johnson Administration decides to act against Castro's growing threat in the hemisphere the only way open would be through counterinsurgency. Castro's reserves of oil at best are marginal. So are his means of internal transport. And both his oil reserves and his transportation system are highly vulnerable to sabotage.